

DAVIDSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
INMATE GRIEVANCE FORM  
ELCONDADO DE DAVIDSON LA OFICINA DE SHERIFF  
FORMA DE AGRAVIOS DEL ENCARCELADO

ORIGINAL/ORIGINAL ☒

APPEAL/APELAR ☐

Name/Nombre: Alexander Baxter OCA/OCA: 068360

Facility and Cell/Facilidad Celda: HDC Pod B Bed 1

Rules/Reglas

1. Grievances should be submitted within seven (7) calendar days of the occurrence.  
Las quejas deben ser sometidas dentro de siete (7) días de calendario de la ocurrencia.
2. The issue being grieved must affect the inmate filing the complaint. If it does not, the grievance will not be processed.  
La persona afectada por el incidente es la personal que debe llenar la forma. De no ser así, la queja no será procesada.
3. Duplicate grievances will not be processed. An inmate is allowed to submit no more than one grievance for any incident.  
Más de una queja para el mismo incidente no será procesada. Un preso es permitido someter no más de una queja por cada incidente.
4. Grievances with vulgar or inappropriate language will not be processed.  
Quejas con palabras vulgares o lenguaje inapropiado no serán procesadas.
5. If more than one inmate files a grievance about the same incident, the responses may be consolidated. If so, it will be noted on the response.  
Si más de un preso archiva una queja acerca del mismo incidente, las respuestas pueden ser consolidadas. Si eso es el caso, será notado en la respuesta.
6. An appeal should be submitted within no more than five (5) days after notification of the original response.  
Una apelación debe ser sometida dentro de no más de cinco (5) días después de la notificación de la respuesta original.
7. Grievances and appeals must be placed in the designated grievance box by the inmate.  
Las quejas y apelaciones deben de ser colocadas en la caja designada de quejas en la celda.

Alex Baxter  
Inmate's Signature

1-13-14  
Date Signed

Details: On 1-8-14 I was arrested by the police.  
When the police found me I sat frozen with my  
hands in the air. The officer then released the  
dog and it attacked me. The officer then stood  
and watched while the dog tore and ripped at me.

DAVIDSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Case Note Details for 696578-BAXTER,ALEXANDER :

1/15/2014

Note Id: 128625

Entry Type: Grievance

Housing Location: HDC-AB B

User ID: dblaylock

Contact Date: 01/15/2014 15:10

Entry Date: 01/15/2014 15:10

Last Update: 01/15/2014 15:10

Inmate submitted a grievance that was not within the scope of DCSO jurisdiction.

Not DCSO related

DAVIDSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
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ELCONDADO DE DAVIDSON LA OFICINA DE SHERIFF  
FORMA DE AGRAVIOS DEL ENCARCELADO

ORIGINAL/ORIGINAL ☒

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Name/Nombre: Alexander Baxter OCA/OCA: 068360

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Alex Baxter  
Inmate's Signature

1-18-14  
Date Signed

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When the police found me I sat frozen with my  
hands in the air. The officer then released the  
dog and it attacked me. The officer then stood  
and watched while the dog tore and ripped at me.

February 7, 2014

Office of Professional Responsibility / Accountability of MNP  
1417 Murfreesboro Rd.  
Nashville, TN 37219

Alexander L. Baxter #68360  
DCSO  
P.O. Box 196383  
Nashville, TN 37219

RE: Complaint for Use of Excessive Force w/ Serious Bodily Injury

Dear OPR,

Please find enclosed my Sworn Declaration making oath to the facts I have listed therein. I will admit that I ran and hid in the basement of a house, but it was during broad daylight with windows uncovered all around. Officers came into the basement and I saw the dog running around free, but once they found me the dog went to the K-9 officer. As I sat on the ground with my hands raised in the air, the K-9 officer deliberately released the dog to attack me. Then he stood and watched as the dog ripped my flesh open. DCSO got pictures.

I was apprehended, in the beam of their flashlights with my hands raised high in the air. There was no reasonable reason to release the dog, and it was not justified by any legitimate purpose. To release the dog then stand and watch as it attacked me was malicious and sadistic and, I believe, was a criminal act.

In closing, please allow me to thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I have never contacted the Office of Professional Accountability before, so would you please let me know the correct procedure. Thank you again, and I will look forward to hearing back from you at your earliest possible convenience. I am requesting to be compensated and the officers punished.

Very truly yours,



***METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT  
of Nashville and Davidson County***

Karl F. Dean, Mayor

Steve Anderson  
Chief of Police

April 9, 2014

Alexander Baxter (OCA 68360)  
C/O Davidson County Sheriff's Office  
P. O. Box 196383  
Nashville, TN. 37219

Mr. Baxter,

I have completed my investigation of your allegations concerning Officer Harris. After reviewing the facts present I have determined the complaint against Officer Harris to be exonerated.

Officer Harris' actions were found to be consistent with Metro Police Departmental Policy.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to ask. I can be reached at 862-7623.

Thank you,

Sgt. Chris Warner  
Metro/Nashville Police Department  
Canine Section  
(615) 862-7623



To: Office of Professional Accountability / Lt. Gilder  
P.O. Box 1963000  
Nashville, TN 37219

4-24-14

From: Alexander Baxter, OIA #68360  
JSC  
P.O. Box 196883  
Nashville, TN 37219-6883

Re: Request for Follow-Up Information / Response

Dear OIA,

This is a follow-up to a request/complaint I filed against officers of the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department for a vicious and deliberate K-9 attack. Once again I would like to reiterate that there were no bites on my legs, no bites on my arms, nor were there any bites on my hands or any other part of my body. The only bites I had were under the pit of my arm. That's because I was completely surrounded, at gunpoint, sitting on the ground frozen still with my hands cuffed in the air.

More than 45 days have now passed. MNPD has had ample time to respond. I respectfully request that positive actions be taken to the fullest extent possible. Please respond at your earliest possible convenience.

Respectfully yours

Alex L. Baxter 4-24-14  
Mr. Alexander L. Baxter

per pax se file



**METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
*of Nashville and Davidson County*

Karl F. Dean, Mayor

Steve Anderson  
Chief of Police

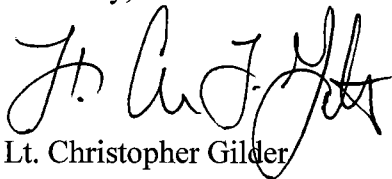
Lt. Christopher Gilder  
Office of Professional Accountability  
Metropolitan Nashville Police Dept.  
200 James Robertson Pkwy  
Nashville, TN 37201  
April 30, 2014

Mr. Alexander Baxter  
OCA# 68360  
Davidson County Sheriff's Office  
P.O. Box 196383  
Nashville, TN 37219-6383

Dear Mr. Baxter:

I am in receipt of your letter dated April 24, 2014. Your original complaint was received and forwarded to Captain Dhana Jones, who oversees the MNPd's K-9 Unit, for investigation. As such, I do not have a status update on this matter. I have, however, forwarded your correspondence to her. If you need to contact Capt. Jones, you may do so by writing to the address supplied at the top of this letter or by calling 862-7755.

Sincerely,

  
Lt. Christopher Gilder

Alexander L. B. Bate  
OCA #68360  
DCSO  
P.O. Box 196383  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219-6383

April 30, 2014

Lt Christopher Gilder, MNPD  
200 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, TN 37201

Re: Appeal/Excessive Use of Force

Dear Lt. Gilder,

I filed a complaint/grievance against two officers for a deliberate and malicious K-9 assault and attack. I received a response from K-9 Sgt. Chris Warner exonerating the two officers. This letter represents an appeal of that decision.

Respectfully submitted,

Alex L. Bate 4-30-14  
Mr. Alexander L. Bate, prose.

cc: prose file



To: STEVE ANDERSON, Chief of Police  
Metropolitan Nashville Police Department  
200 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, TN 37201

5-1-14

From: Alexander L. Baxter, OCA #68360  
Davidson County Sheriff's Office  
P.O. Box 196383  
Nashville, TN 37219

Re: Citizen Complaint / Administrative Appeal / Excessive Force

Dear Chief Anderson,

Please be advised that I am in receipt of a letter from K-9 Sgt. Chris Warner, dated April 9, 2014, exonerating Officer Harris at this level of this complaint. Pursuant to the Prison Mailbox Rule, the letter was received by me on April 29, 2014. This timely response follows. The reply submitted by Sgt. Warner failed to mention a second officer present who participated and/or acquiesced and/or failed to intervene to stop a malicious and deliberate K-9 assault and attack. The complaint is against both officers.

Please be further advised that this correspondence represents an exhaustive appeal in this action. Once again, it was called a K-9 apprehension, yet there were no bites on my legs, no bites on my arms, nor were there any bites on my hands or any other part of my body. The only bites I had were under the pit of my arm. That's because I was completely surrounded, at gunpoint, sitting on the ground frozen still with my hands raised in the air. The response found such actions to be "... consistent with Metro Police Departmental Policy..."

Submitted respectfully,

Alexander L. Baxter 5-1-14  
MR. ALEXANDER L. BAXTER

cc: Mayor Karl Dean  
Office of Professional Accountability  
Bobby Leggs, Board of Directors, NAACP  
United States District Court, Middle District of Tennessee  
Eddie Maze, Attorney at Law  
Sgt. Chris Warner, MNPD



***METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT***  
***of Nashville and Davidson County***

Karl F. Dean, Mayor

Steve Anderson  
Chief of Police

Lt. Christopher Gilder  
Office of Professional Accountability  
Metropolitan Nashville Police Dept.  
200 James Robertson Pkwy.  
Nashville, TN 37201  
May 8, 2014

Mr. Alexander Baxter  
OCA#68360  
Davidson County Sheriff's Office  
P.O. Box 196383  
Nashville, TN 37219-6383

Mr. Baxter:

I am in receipt of your letter dated May 2, 2014. As noted in my correspondence on April 30, 2014, the Office of Professional Accountability did not conduct an investigation in this matter. Instead, the investigation was handled by a supervisor in the Canine Section – Sgt. Chris Warner. Any questions regarding the investigation should be directed to him at the contact information he provided in the letter he sent to you on April 9, 2014. A copy of your most recent correspondence will be forwarded to him.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lt. Christopher Gilder". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Lt. Christopher Gilder

Mr. Alexander L. Baxter  
OCA #69360  
DCSC  
P.O. Box 196393  
Nashville, TENNESSEE 37219

May 16, 2014

K-9 Sgt. Chris Warner  
200 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, TN 37201

RE: Response/Request for Guidelines to Properly Appeal

Dear Sgt. Warner,

I am in receipt of a letter from Lt. Christopher Gilder advising that any questions should be directed to you. There are no clear guidelines available here about how exactly to properly appeal your decision exonerating Officer Harris and not mentioning the name of the second officer present.

Please be advised that I wish to appeal your decision. Would you please provide me directions or mail to me any form, if available, to properly file an administrative appeal.

Respectfully yours,

Alex L. Baxter 5-16-14  
Mr. Alexander Baxter

cc: prose file

Mr. Alexander L. Baxter  
OCA #68360  
DCSO  
P.O. Box 196383  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219

May 16, 2014

Chief Steve Anderson, MNPD  
200 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, TN 37201

Re: Administrative Appeal

I filed a complaint/grievance back in February about a malicious and deliberate K-9 attack after I had surrendered and was caught. I have received a response from K-9 Sgt. Chris Warner and Lt. Christopher Gilder. I wish to appeal the decision exonerating Officer Harris and failing to provide the name of the second officer present. I am requesting compensation for my injuries, the hospital bill paid for, and an investigation resulting in punitive action against the two officers involved.

Respectfully yours,

Alex L. Baxter 5-16-14  
Mr. Alexander Baxter

pc: pro se file



***METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT  
of Nashville and Davidson County***

Karl F. Dean, Mayor

Steve Anderson  
Chief of Police

May 20th, 2014

Alexander Baxter (OCA 68360)  
C/O Davidson County Sheriff's Office  
P. O. Box 196383  
Nashville, TN. 37219

Mr. Baxter,

I have completed my investigation of your allegations concerning Officer Bracey. After reviewing the facts present I have determined the complaint against Officer Bracey to be exonerated.

Officer Bracey actions were found to be consistent with Metro Police Departmental Policy. He was not inside the structure at the time of the incident in question.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to ask. I can be reached at 862-7623.

Thank you,

Sgt. Chris Warner  
Metro/Nashville Police Department  
Canine Section  
(615) 862-7623



**METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY**



KARL F. DEAN  
MAYOR

SAUL SOLOMON  
DIRECTOR OF LAW

DEPARTMENT OF LAW  
METROPOLITAN COURTHOUSE, SUITE 108  
P O BOX 196300  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37219-6300  
(615) 862-6341 • (615) 862-6352 FAX

May 22, 2014

Alexander L. Baxter, OCA #68360  
Davidson county Sheriff's Office  
P.O. Box 196383  
Nashville, TN 37219

Re: May 1, 2014 letter

Dear Mr. Baxter:

I am writing in response to your May 1, 2014 letter copied to Mayor Dean where you complained about the conduct of several Metropolitan Nashville Police Department ("MNPd") officers.

I have conveyed the necessary information regarding your complaint about the MNPd officers to the Police Department for further review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Cavanaugh".

Jennifer Cavanaugh  
Assistant Metropolitan Attorney

B-013579



Alexander L. Baxter  
OCA #68360  
DCSO  
P.O. Box 196383  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219

Sgt. Chris Warner, MNP  
200 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, TN 37201

5-23-14

RE: RENEWAL of Administrative Complaint / Dispute Resolution Request

Dear Sgt. Warner,

I am in receipt of a letter from Jennifer Cavanaugh, Assistant Metropolitan Attorney, informing me that she has conveyed the necessary information regarding my complaint back to the Police Department "for further review." This correspondence is to renew my complaint seeking damages.

In the alternative, my attorney's name is Eddie Maze. He is addressed at 214 2<sup>ND</sup> Avenue North, Suite 105, Nashville, Tennessee. I have sent him information regarding a ~~police~~ ~~resolution~~ dispute resolution request.

Thank you, and I will look to hear back from you at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully,

Alex L. Baxter

5-23-14



***METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT  
of Nashville and Davidson County***

Karl F. Dean, Mayor

Steve Anderson  
Chief of Police

Lt. Christopher Gilder  
Office of Professional Accountability  
Metropolitan Nashville Police Dept.  
200 James Robertson Pkwy  
Nashville, TN 37201  
June 26, 2014

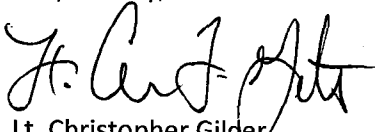
Mr. Alexander Baxter  
OCA# 68360  
Davidson County Sheriff's Office  
P.O. Box 196383  
Nashville, TN 37219-6383

Dear Mr. Baxter:

I am in receipt of your letter dated June 17, 2014. A member of my office has reviewed the administrative investigation associated with the incident on January 8, 2014. After reviewing the investigative packet, we find no error to justify reopening the matter.

Given that you are represented by counsel, and that you have already been in touch with the Metropolitan Department of Law, I would request that any future correspondence be directed to them.

Respectfully,

  
Lt. Christopher Gilder



To: Captain Dhana Jones, MNPD  
200 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, TN 37201

7-25-14

From: Alexander L. Baxter, OCA #68360  
DCSC  
P.O. Box 196383  
Nashville, TN 37219-6300

RE: Administrative Appeal / Compromise Resolution Request

Dear Captain Jones,

I filed a complaint back in January complaining about the malicious and sadistic and violent use of excessive force. I've since received correspondences from Sgt. Chris Warner and Lt. Christopher Gilder providing no relief. The latest correspondence from Lt. Gilder was not dated, but I received it here at the jail on July 3, 2014. The complaint with the facts enumerated therein was sworn to and notarized under penalty of perjury.

The Prison Litigation Reform Act (PLRA) requires that I seek administrative remedy before seeking judicial relief in a federal court of law. It is my position that the action of your officers not only violated my civil rights, but was a violent criminal act (Especially Aggravated Assault) committed against me under the authority of color invested in them by the MNPD.

In the alternative, I am respectfully requesting that a compromise resolution be reached eliminating the need for future litigation. My lawyer's name is Brian Griffith. His telephone number is (615) 254-0202. He is aware of my simple request.

Respectfully yours,  
*Alex L. Baxter 7-25-14*  
Mr. Alexander L. Baxter

cc: U.S. District Court, Middle District of Tenn.

Bobby Leggs, Board of Directors, NAACP

Jennifer Cavanaugh, Asst. Metac Attorney

Brian Griffith, Attorney at Law

To: STEVE ANDERSON, Chief of Police, MNPD  
200 JAMES ROBERTSON PKWY.  
Nashville, TN 37201

8-10-14

From: ALEXANDER L. BAXTER, DCA #68360  
P.O. Box 196383  
Nashville, TN 37201

Re: Exhaustion of Administrative Appeal/Compromise Resolution Request

Dear Chief Anderson,

I filed a complaint back in January of this year complaining about the malicious and sadistic and UNNECESSARY use of violent force used against me. I've since received correspondences from Sgt. Chris Warner and Lt. Christopher Gilder providing no relief. The latest correspondence from Lt. Gilder was not dated, but I received it here at the jail on July 3, 2014. The complaint with the facts enumerated therein was sworn to and notarized under penalty of perjury.

The Prison Litigation Reform Act (PLRA) requires that I seek administrative remedy before seeking judicial relief in a federal court of law. Sir, it is my position that the action of your officers not only violated my civil rights, but was also a violent criminal act committed against me under the color of the authority invested in them by the MNPD.

Thusly, this correspondence and the one I will send to the mayor's office, if necessary, represents a total exhaustion of my administrative remedies in this action. I am, however, respectfully requesting that a compromise resolution be considered eliminating the need for future litigation. My new attorney's name is Mr. Brian Griffith. His number is (615) 254-0202. Mr. Griffith is aware of my request should anyone become interested.

cc: Mayor Karl Dean  
United States District Court, M.D. of TENN.  
Bobby Leggs, Board of Directors, NAACP  
Jennifer Cavanaugh, Metro Attorney  
Brian Griffith, Attorney at Law

Respectfully submitted,  
*Alex L. Baxter* 8-10-14  
Mr. Alexander L. Baxter

To: Mayor Karl Dean  
2 Metropolitan Courthouse  
P.O. Box 196383  
Nashville, TN 37219-6300

8-26-14

From: Alexander L. Baxter, OCA #68360  
DCSO  
P.O. Box 196383  
Nashville, TN 37219-6300

RE: Exhaustion of Administrative Appeal / Compromise Resolution Request

Dear Mayor Dean,

This correspondence represents a follow-up to an action I began back in January of this year complaining about the malicious and sadistic and UNNECESSARY use of violent force used against me by officers of the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department. After appealing to Chief Anderson and then communicating that appeal to your office, per your instruction Attorney Cavanaugh conveyed information regarding my complaint back to MNPd "... for further review..." I began the process over and I've since received correspondencies from K9 Sgt. Chris Warner and Lt. Christopher Gilder providing no relief. Subsequent appeals followed to K9 Captain Dhana Jones and Chief Steve Anderson produced no response.

Your Honor, as respectfully as I know how, this correspondence also represents my sincerely remorseful regret. I am shameful, I am sorrowful, and I apologize to you and this city I love so much. I have even acknowledged on the record and in open court my willingness to assist law enforcement, a request made of me during a visit from other officers, to help recover goods and identify businesses that buy goods. But the problem is that the officers who assaulted me as well as their supervisors have refused to accept any responsibility for their actions. Instead, they have engaged in a conspiracy to cover up what really happened.

If you recall, they called it a K9 apprehension, but there were no bites on my legs, no bites on my arms, no bites on my hands, or on any other place on my body. The only bites I had were under the pit of my arm.

That's because I was completely surrounded, at gunpoint, sitting on the ground frozen still with my hands raised in the air. That is when they released the dog to attack me. It was also like an execution. They stood and watched as the dog ripped me open.

EVEN the police report submitted by Sgt. WARNER stated, in part, as follows: "... Officer Harris advised that once he had a visual of the suspect he gave the suspect commands to show his hands. He advised the suspect complied, and K9 Iwo released..." Common sense would dictate that if I complied with my hands raised in the air for complete surrender, there was no need to release that animal to attack me. It was deliberate. It was intentional. It was especially aggravated assault. That is why it has been my complaint, subscribed and sworn to under penalty of perjury, that the action of those officers not only violated my civil rights, but it was a violent criminal act committed against me under the color of authority invested in them by the MNPD.

In conclusion, the Prison Litigation Reform Act (PLRA) requires that I exhaust my administrative remedies before seeking judicial remedies in a federal court of law. Thusly, this correspondence represents a total exhaustion of my administrative remedies and my final attempt to reach a compromise resolution. My request is simple and very reasonable, eliminating the need for future litigation. I am privileged to be represented by a very good attorney. He is aware of my request.

Brian Griffith, Attorney at Law  
1308 Rosa Parks Blvd.  
Nashville, TN 37208  
(615) 254-0202

Respectfully yours,  
Alex L. Baxter 8-26-14  
MR. Alexander L. Baxter  
DCSO  
P.O. Box 196383  
Nashville, TN 37219-6300

United States District Court, Middle District of Tennessee  
Jennifer Cavanaugh, Asst. Metropolitan Attorney  
Brian Griffith, Attorney at Law  
Bobby Leggs, Board of Directors, NAACP